

V.—*Small Mammals from South America.*
By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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Leontocebus midas egens, subsp. n.

General characters of true Guianan *midas*, but back more strongly suffused with dark buffy, generally throughout, and in all cases across the shoulders. Black of the head less deep and less continued down on to the back, the grizzled buffy of the back going further forward on the nape. Hands, instead of being wholly "ochraceous" or "ochraceous buff," only of this colour on the outer half of the wrist, the metacarpus and digits being decidedly lighter coloured, "buff" or "cream-buff." Feet also rather lighter than in *midas*, though the difference is less conspicuous.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 229 mm.; tail 384; hind foot 65; ear 40.

Skull: greatest length 49·5.

Hab. Obidos, Lower Amazons.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 12. 5. 11. 5. Original number 58. Collected 15th February, 1912, by Fräulein Dr. E. Sneath; presented by the Goeldi Museum, Para. Five specimens examined.

This Amazonian form of the common yellow-handed marmoset is closely similar to the typical Guianan animal, but may be distinguished by the paler colour of its hands, a difference verified on five examples of *egens* as compared with ten of *midas*. Curiously enough, two specimens from the Moon Mountains, the nearest locality in Guiana to Obidos, have hands of an even darker tone than those of British Guiana, and resemble in this respect one from Cayenne which I have always considered to represent Geoffroy's *rufimanus*.

Felis pardinoides emerita, subsp. n.

General characters of *F. pardinoides*, including size, the backward direction of the nape-hairs, and the general coloration. But the feet, both fore and hind, instead of being blackened below, as is usual in the majority of cats, are not or scarcely darker below than above, where they are of a uniform "clay-colour"; the heel alone is blackish, as in the allied forms. White ear-patches larger than in *pardinoides*

and *p. andina*. Black nuchal stripes strongly marked in the two males, narrow and discontinuous in the female.

Skull on the whole with a rather less swollen brain-case than in true *pardinoides* and in *F. p. andina*. Postorbital processes directed rather more outwards, less slanted backwards. Bullæ smaller than in *pardinoides*, only one of the four specimens having them as large as in the type of *andina*, which in turn has them smaller than in S.-Brazilian *pardinoides*. Teeth about as in *pardinoides*, smaller than in *andina*.

Dimensions of the type (an adult female):—

Head and body 480 mm.; tail 330; hind foot 98.

Skull: greatest length 85; condylo-basal length 81.3; zygomatic breadth 5.5; interorbital breadth 14.2; breadth of brain-case 40; palatal length 31; front of canine to back of p^4 23.3; length of p^4 on outer edge 9 (10.1 in ♂).

Hab. Northern Venezuela. Type from the "Montes de la Culata," Merida (alt. 3000 m.); another specimen (melanistic) from Tachira.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 5. 7. 5. 3. Collected 14th April, 1904, by S. Briceño. Two males and another female also in collection.

The pale colour of the hairy part of the palms and soles of this cat is an unusual character, and I have considered the possibility of its having been artificially produced by the limbs having been dipped in some preservative. But there are four specimens, collected at considerable intervals of time, all with their feet similarly coloured, so that so uniform an alteration seems unlikely. In any case, however, on account of the skull-characters described above and its comparatively large ear-patches, the Merida wild cat would be subspecifically separable from its allies elsewhere.

The Grisons of Chili and Argentina.

In 1907* I showed that the name *vittatus*, which had been commonly used as a "blanket-name" for Grisons from all parts of South America, was based on a specimen from Surinam, and was therefore no doubt applicable to one of the larger forms of the genus, like *G. alamandi* and others, and I then gave the specific name of *furax* to the "Furão" of S. Brazil and the Argentine, which is not only smaller than the members of the *vittatus* group, but is distinguished by having no inner cusp on the lower carnassial tooth.

* Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) xx. p. 163 (1907).

Further consideration induces me to think that this latter character might be made the basis of a subgeneric division of *Grison*, and that the species without the cusp should form a special subgenus, which might be called *Grisonella* and have *G. furax* as its type.

In Chili, instead of there being only one form of Grison present, it now appears there are two, a larger and a smaller, the former inhabiting Central Chili and the latter South Chili, whence three specimens have been sent to the British Museum by Messrs. Bullock and Saldanha. The question therefore arises as to which of these animals should bear the specific names *cuja* and *quiqui* given to members of this genus by Molina, and also that of "var. *chilensis*" assigned by Nehring* in rather a casual way to a skull from "Chili."

The specimens received from S. Chili (Temuco) are marked as being called "Cuya" by the natives; and since Molina said his "*Mustela cuja*" was of the size of a ferret, which suits the Temuco Grison very well and the large Central Chili one not at all, I propose to identify the *cuja* as being this animal, whose name would therefore be *Grison* (*Grisonella*) *cuja*, Mol.

And further, Molina's *Mustela quiqui* can hardly be otherwise than the same animal, for it is said to be a weasel ("donnola") about 13 inches in length from nose to base of tail, and while a female *G. cuja* measures 13 and a male 15 inches in length, the Central Chili species attains not less than 17 inches in the female and up to 24 in the male †.

Nehring's *chilensis* is unquestionably a female of the small species (basilar length of skull 58 mm.).

A male skull of this species is 70 mm. in condylo-basal length, and a female 64.5.

All three Chilean names being therefore applicable to the smaller species of S. Chili, the question arises as to what the name of the larger Central Chili species should be.

Careful comparison, however, shows that this animal cannot be distinguished from the Argentine "Huron," which has been hitherto considered the same as the Brazilian *G. furax*.

But the latter is a much more buffy-coloured animal than

* Zool. Jahrb. Syst. i. p. 189 (1886).

† Not knowing that a small species of Grison occurred in S. Chili, Burmeister ('La Plata,' iii. p. 160) supposed that the Quiqui was the young of the ordinary "Huron." But Molina gave a general account of its habits, evidently knowing the species well, while as to the number of its teeth the frequent loss of p^1 and m_2 makes specimens with only twenty-eight teeth by no means rare.

that inhabiting Chili and the Argentine, to which therefore a special subspecific name might be given.

I would propose to call it

Grison furax melinus, subsp. n.

Size as in *G. furax*, considerably larger than in *G. cuja*.

General colour dark greyish, the light ends to the hairs nearly white instead of being buffy as in *furax*; light frontal band cream-buff, this being "buff" or deeper in *furax*.

Dimensions of the type (measured in flesh):—

Head and body 475 mm.; tail 180; hind foot 60.

Skull: condylo-basal length 80.5; zygomatic breadth 46*.

An older male from the same locality measures 83.5 in condylo-basal length and one from Mar del Plata, Argentine, 84.6.

Hab. Chili, between about 30° and 36° S. lat., and Argentina from Tucuman to Chubut. Type from Quillota, near Valparaiso.

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 1. 6. 8. 1. Original number 191. Collected 5th April, 1901, and presented by John A. Wolffsohn, Esq.

The Museum is indebted to Mr. Wolffsohn for four skins and six skulls of this animal.

A Second Specimen of Glironia venusta.

Through the kindness of Dr. K. Kraepelin, of the Hamburg Museum, the British Museum has been allowed to acquire by exchange an example of *Glironia* from Yungas, Bolivia, which had been in the Hamburg Museum for some years, having been purchased from Rolle in 1897.

The specimen is an immature male in spirit, and by its help I am enabled to correct some inaccuracies in my original account of *Glironia* † and to add some further information about it.

The spirit-specimen shows that the tail is more distichous than appeared on the skin and that the middle line of the underside, instead of being naked only for its terminal three inches, is very thinly hairy from close to the base and becomes practically naked about halfway along.

In the skull some at least of the unusual lowness is due to the deteriorated condition of the type, the form of the brain-

* Other measurements given by Nehring, *l. c.* p. 209.

† *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* (8) ix. p. 239 (1912).

case in the fresh specimen not being materially different from that in *Marmosa*.

The tooth-characters are all as described in the type, and it may be noted in addition that the upper milk-secator is narrower than in *Marmosa*, and has its inner lobe further back, the tip of the lobe being behind the level of the anterior main cusp, while it is in front of it in *Marmosa*.

Allowing for the difference in age, I can see no reason to suppose that the Yungas specimen is specifically distinct from that from Pozuzo.

VI.—Notes on *Fossorial Hymenoptera*.—IX.

By ROWLAND E. TURNER, F.Z.S., F.E.S.

On some new Species from the Australian and Austro-Malayan Regions.

Family Thynnidæ.

Agriomyia cornuticollis, sp. n.

♀. Nigra: pygidio flagelloque testaceo-brunneis, calcariis pallidis; pronoto subconcavo, angulis anticis tuberculatis, posticis spina erecta armatis.

Long. 8 mm.

Head very thin and almost flat, more than half as broad again as long, rounded at the posterior angles, more than twice as broad as the thorax. Pronotum broader anteriorly than long, narrowed posteriorly, slightly concave, strongly raised and tuberculate at the anterior angles, armed with an erect acute tubercle on each side close to the posterior angles, the posterior margin arched, the angles acute. Scutellum narrow; median segment shorter than the pronotum, broadened posteriorly and obliquely sloped. Shining, the head finely aciculate, thorax and abdomen with a few fine scattered punctures. First dorsal segment broadly depressed at the apex, the raised basal portion broadly and rather shallowly emarginate at the apex. Second dorsal segment with five well-defined transverse carinæ, including the raised apical margin; pygidium lanceolate. Ventral segments more strongly punctured, the fifth closely and coarsely punctured.

Hab. Hermannsburg, Central Australia (*H. J. Hillier*).

This female is easily distinguished by the peculiar form of the pronotum.